



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS REGULATIONS BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

[Docket No. HM-25; Amdt. 178-16]

**PART 178—SHIPPING CONTAINER
SPECIFICATIONS**

**Special Composite Package for Elec-
trolyte (Acid) or Alkaline Corrosive
Battery Fluid**

The purpose of this amendment to the Hazardous Materials Regulations of the Department of Transportation is to authorize the use of multiwall polyethylene or other suitable plastic bags within specification 12B fiberboard boxes for shipment of electrolyte acid or alkaline corrosive battery fluid.

On November 21, 1969, amendment 178-8 was published (34 F.R. 18554). Subsequent to the amendment, it was brought to the Hazardous Materials Regulations Board's attention that a major style of bag used for several years under special permit authority was a multiwall bag, and not a 3-mil bag within another 3-mil bag as described in the amendment. The rule change as stated therefore did not authorize, as was intended, the type bag with which shipping experience had been obtained under special permit provision. On August 22, 1970, the Board published another notice of proposed rule making, Docket No. HM-25; Notice 70-15 (35 F.R. 13465) which proposed to correct the deficiency.

Interested persons were invited to give their views on the proposal. Two comments were received objecting to the concept of bag-in-a-box packaging for electrolyte. No other comments were received.

The proposed change related to a variation from currently authorized bag-in-a-box packaging. The two comments made, however, did not address themselves to the rule change concerned, and therefore could not be considered as objections to the proposal, but the Board does take note that concern exists over the overall adequacy of the package.

Accordingly, 49 CFR Part 178 is amended as follows:

In § 178.205-37, paragraph (a) is amended to read as follows:

§ 178.205 Specification 12B; fiberboard boxes.

§ 178.205-37 Special box; authorized polyethylene or other suitable plastic bags for packaging of electrolyte (acid) or alkaline corrosive battery fluid only.

(a) Box must comply with this specification except as follows: Box must be one-piece construction of slotted style and may have die-cut areas of minimum size to provide access to an inside closure part. Box must contain one multiwall bag made of polyethylene or other suitable plastic of sufficient size and capacity to be capable of coming into contact with all of the interior surfaces of the box when filled. Each ply of the bag must be formed from virgin film not less than 0.003 inch thick. Joints must be heat sealed and not less than 1/8-inch wide.

This amendment is effective June 10, 1971. However, compliance with the regulations as amended herein is authorized immediately.

(Secs. 831-835, title 18, U.S.C.; sec. 9, Department of Transportation Act, 49 U.S.C. 1657; title VI and sec. 902(h), Federal Aviation Act of 1958, 48 U.S.C. 1421-1430, 1472(h))

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